

**TOWN OF SOMERS
FIRE DEPARTMENT STUDY AD HOC COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2014
7:00pm
Selectmen's Conference Room**

Call to Order: Selectman Lisa Pellegrini called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Members Present: First Selectman Lisa Pellegrini, Selectmen Kathy Devlin and Fire Commission Members David Palmer and Andrew Rockett. Those also in attendance include Fire Chief Gary Schiessl and Somers Firefighters Al Baker, Ray Stovall and Bob Wheeler.

Discussion-Paid Fire Chief Position

- **Volunteer Fire Department Association/Town of Somers Agreement:**
Mr. Rockett made a motion to authorize First Selectman Lisa Pellegrini to contact Town Labor Attorney Patrick McHale to draft a Somers Volunteer Fire Department/Town of Somers Agreement, seconded by Mrs. Devlin. A unanimous vote followed.
- **Fire Ordinance:**
Committee worked on general language of ordinance to include language regarding Career Chief, Fire Marshal and role of Board of Selectmen and Fire Commission. There was unanimous agreement by committee on draft changes. The draft is to be reviewed by the Town Attorney with further discussion/review to take place at the next meeting.
- **Staffing Considerations:**
Committee discussed various options involving staffing in the department which might be in place should a Career Fire Chief be hired.
Mr. Palmer made a motion to authorize First Selectmen Lisa Pellegrini to determine the financial impact of the following:
 1. *Hiring a Career Fire Chief*
 2. *Hiring a Career Fire Chief and 1 additional firefighter working 44 hours per week, with assignment of Fire Marshal duties to existing Career firefighter personnel.*
 3. *Hiring a Career Fire Chief and 2 additional firefighters each working 44 hours per week*
 4. *Hiring 2 additional firefighters each working 44 hours per week,**Seconded by Mrs. Devlin. A unanimous vote followed.*

Adjournment:

Mr. Rockett made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:35pm, seconded by Mrs. Pellegrini. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Pellegrini-Recording

Minutes are not official until accepted at a subsequent meeting.